AN ACCOUNT OF THE General Nurſery, OR COLLEDG of INFANTS, Set up by the JUSTICES of PEACE FOR THE COUNTY of *MIDDLESEX*, With the Conſtitutions and Ends thereof.

LICENSED,
October 13. 1686.

R. L'Eſtrange.

LONDON:
Printed by *R. Roberts.* 1686.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE General Nurſery, OR COLLEDG of INFANTS, &c.

THERE is a large Houſe at *Clerkenwell*, built near the Fields, which coſt the ſeveral Pariſhes within this County of *Middleſex*, at leaſt 5000 *l.* Building, which Houſe is by the Juſtices of the Peace for the County of *Middleſex*, ſet a part for the Reception and Breeding up of poor Fatherleſs or Motherleſs Infants, left to the Pariſh care, and for the Inſtructing them in Religion and Virtue, and making them Capable of getting an honeſt Livelihood by their Labour.

1. There is a Governour, one of his Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace for the County of *Middleſex*, to whoſe Care the ſaid Juſtices have committed the General Nurſery.

2. There is a Miniſter reſiding conſtantly in the Place, who Reads Prayers twice a day, before Dinner and Supper; he Catechiſes on Sundays, and ſometimes preaches in the Afternoon; he ſees that the Schoolmaſter and all Inferior Servants do their ſeveral Duties, and that all the Children are well provided for, and inſtructed in true Religion and Virtue.

3. There is a Phyſitian, an Apothecary and Chyrurgion, who attend weekly, every *Thurſday*, in their ſeveral ways, to take care of, and provide for the Children.

4. There is an excellent Writing-Maſter to Teach all the Children to Write, who alſo Regiſters the Names of all Children admitted and diſpoſed of, and keeps all the Accounts of the Houſe.

5. There is a School-Maſter, who Teaches all the Boys to Read, ſay their Prayers and Catechiſm; there are ſeveral other Perſons of ſeveral Trades, to Teach the Children ſeveral ſorts of Works, and bring them up therein.

6. There is a Porter, who looks to all the Children at Play, attends the Door, and Rings the Bell to Prayers, Dinner and Supper.

7. There is a Matron or Houſe-keeper, who takes care for Proviſion to be brought into the Houſe, and Dreſſing thereof, for the Family.

8. There is an Aſſiſtant to the Matron, who takes care of all the Childrens Cloaths, and of the Beds and Sheets, that all be mended and kept in good Order.

9. There is a School Miſtriſs for the Girls, to Teach them to Read, ſay their Prayers and Catechiſm.

10. There is a Semſtreſs, who Teacheth all the Girls to Work, and make all the Linnen uſed in the Houſe.

11. There is a Cook to Dreſs all Proviſions according to the Matrons Order.

12. There is a Landreſs alſo, belonging to the Houſe.

13. There

13. There is an old Nurſe, to take care of all Sick and Weak Children, this Nurſe hath her Aſſiſtants if need requires.

14. There are ſeveral Women to look after the Chambers, to Waſh and keep Clean all the Lodgings, make the Beds, and to do other neceſſary Work there.

15. The Books are conſtantly made up every firſt *Thurſday* in every Month, and all Officers and Tradeſmen, and others, who are concerned in the Houſe, are cleared off.

16. There is alſo a Regiſter Book, kept to Regiſter the Names of all Worthy Perſons who ſhall be Benefactors to this good Work, and the ſame laid by for a time, to put the Children out with it, to Trades, as they grow fit; and the Juſtices of the Peace, once every year, at the Quarter Seſſions, next after the Feaſt of the Birth of our Lord, yearly have conſtantly an Account thereof.

A Propoſal for the better Education of Infants.

ALtho many good Proviſions have been heretofore made by the Charity of well-diſpoſed Perſons, for the Maintenance and Education of Youth: Yet no Convenience or Education hath yet been thought on, or taken care of, for poor Infants, who can leaſt provide for themſelves, or be provided for.

For want whereof, many great Evils and Inconveniences are daily found, by the wilful and careleſs cauſing, or ſuffering many Infants to periſh, or to Suck in wicked and debauched Principles, to the Ruin, as 'tis to be feared, often of their Souls, as well as Bodies.

Now for the remedying thereof, a General Nurſery, or Infantory, is recommended by His Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace, at the Quarter Seſſions for *Middleſex* and *Weſtminſter*,

to

to the Inhabitants therein, as by their Orders at their ſeveral Seſſions may appear.

And for that purpoſe, the Juſtices of the Peace of the County of *Middleſex*, have already diſpoſed of, and appropriated a great publick Building, at *Clerkenwell* (whoſe good Examples, 'tis hop'd, will ſoon be followed by others) and ſuch Orders and Proviſions are there already made, that Infants ſhall be there Received and Provoided for, with all manner of Neceſſaries, and be Taught to Read and Write, and be bred up in true Religion and Virtue.

And 'tis ſuppoſed, that when Perſons are ſatisfied of the great Conveniences and Advantages of this Infantory or Nurſery, many Charitable and Religious Perſons will be Liberal Benefactors thereunto, whereby the Charge of the Maintenance and Education of the Poor may be at leaſt eas'd, if not wholly taken off.

But the Children firſt brought in, muſt firſt be provided for, out of ſuch Charities.

Thoſe who intend to give or leave any Sum of Money for the Proviſion of any Infant or Infants, may at the Houſe be very well ſatisfied of the Fund of Land for the ſecuring thereof, and for the putting out of ſuch Children, or providing for them, when and in ſuch way as ſhall be thought for their Advantage, or according to ſuch Directions as the Charitable Benefactors ſhall direct.

For 50 *l.* a Child will be wholly provided for, bred up, put forth Apprentice, and 10 *l.* given him, when out of his time, towards ſetting him up, beſides the benefit of the Houſe.

For 120 *l.* a Child will be wholly provided for, bred up, put forth to a very good Trade, and have 100 *l.* given him to ſet up withal, when out of his Time.

And according to the Sum or Sums of Money, that ſhall be given or left for, or toward ſuch Charity, the ſame being

ſecured

ſecured as above to their Satisfaction, the product ſhall be accounted for yearly, to the Juſtice of the Peace, in your *Michaelmas* Quarter Seſſions, if no other Perſon or Perſons be appointed by ſuch Benefactor, to Overſee, and take ſuch Accompt.

The great Conveniences and Advantages by this Nurſery will be,

1. To the Fatherleſs and Motherleſs.

2. To the Poor; the Trouble and Charge of Breeding up ſuch Infants, taking them much off from earning their Livelihoods.

3. To all ſuch whoſe Employments require, or cauſe their Abſence from their Dwellings, as Seafaring Men, uſers of Fairs and Markets.

4. And to all ſuch as would not otherwiſe keep Houſes, unleſs it were for the Looking after, and Breeding up their Children.

It is alſo believed this Proviſion may prevent the great Trouble and Charge to all perſons, by Children left and laid in the ſeveral Pariſhes.

Or that at leaſt it may eaſe the Pariſhes, and their Officers, in Providing for, and Breeding up of their Pariſh Children.

And by this Education, we may be aſſured there will be better Subjects, better Maſters, and better Apprentices and Servants, for all perſons that ſhall need them.

And as this good Work takes, many other Propoſals ſhall be made for the taking off, and wholly providing for Infants, for ſmall ſums of Money, which ſhall be ſecured by certain and ſufficient Funds.

The Rates propos'd for ſuch Maintenance and Education are,

Twenty Shillings Entrance, which is for new Cloaths and Bedding.

And 3 *s.* a Week, for Meat, Drink, Cloaths, and all other things, for the future.

The Days to receive them, are Thurſdays *weekly, from Nine till Noon, at the Nurſery or Infantory at* Clerkenwell, *&c. But the Place and Accommodation being ſo much approved of by all that ſee it, and the Confluence of People thither on thoſe days being great, for the greater eaſe and diſpatch to the buſineſs, It is deſired that all Perſons approving of the Undertaking, will come and bring in their Children on the* Mondays *before, and leave the Name and Age of the Child with the Officer, who is appointed to attend there on thoſe days to that purpoſe.*

Note, *That you may take the Child away at any time, when you have an Opportunity of a better Proviſion for it, and the new Cloaths with it.*

A COPY of the ſeveral ORDERS of SESSIONS, made at *MIDDLESER* and *WESTMINSTER*, for the better Encouragement of the General Nurſery or Colledge of Infants, lately Eſtabliſhed at *Clerkenwell*. With a Copy of a Letter written from the Juſtices to the Miniſters and Church-Wardens of the ſeveral Pariſhes within the ſaid County, after they had been to view the ſame, ſince it was put in Practice this laſt Quarter Seſſions.

Middl. ſſ. *Ad Generalem Seſſionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. pro Com. Midd. apud* Hicks-hall *in St.* John-ſtreet *in Com. præd' die Lunæ ſcil. Viceſimo ſecundo die Februarii Anno Regni Regis* Jacobi *Secundi nunc Angliæ*, &c. *ſecundo.*

THe Juſtices of Peace for the County of *Middleſex* having obſerved great Inconveniences for the looſe way of breeding up of Pariſh Children, whereby very few of them

them come to good; for the remedying whereof, they have at their Quarter Seſſions, ordered a great part of the Corporation-Workhouſe at *Clerkenwell* for their Reception, and the ſame is fitted up for that purpoſe, and excellent Rules and Methods are there taken for their Education in true Religion and Virtue; and the care thereof is committed to Sir *Thomas Rowe* Knight, one of His Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace for the ſame County. And that the Benefits and Advantages thereby may be ſeen and found, for the putting the ſame in Practice (having conſidered the Extent and Condition of the ſeveral Pariſhes) they do hereby Order the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the Poor in the ſeveral Pariſhes here undermentioned, on or before the 18*th* day of *March* next enſuing, to ſend the Proportion of Children hereafter ſpecified, out of ſuch Pariſh Children as they now have in their reſpective Pariſhes.

St. *Giles* in the *Fields*, Five.
St. *Andrew Holborn*, Five.
St. *James Weſtminſter*, Five.
St. *Margaret Weſtminſter*, Five.
St. *Martin* in the *Fields*, Six.
St. *Paul Covent Garden*, Four.
St. *Clement Danes*, Five.
St. *Mary le Savoy*, Three.
Roles Liberty, Two.
St. *James Clerkenwell*, Five.
St. *Giles Cripplegate*, Five.

Per Cur. *Smith.*

Weſtm. ſſ. *Ad Generalem Quarterialem Seſſionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. apud Weſtminſt. pro Libertat. Decani & Capituli Eccleſiæ Collegiatæ beati Petri Weſtm. Civit. Burgi ac Villæ Weſtm. in Com. Middl. & Sancti Martini le Grand, London. die Mercurii ſcil. Septimo die Aprilis, Dom. Anno Regni Regis* Jacobi *Secundi, ſecundo.*

UPon the reading of the Order mentioned on the other ſide of this Paper, and upon Conſideration thereof, this Court are of Opinion, That the Method and Means to

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the purpoſe within ſpecified, are very commendable, and ought to be encouraged for the better Education of Pariſh-Children in the Knowledg and Fear of God; and therefore they do concur with the Order already made on the other ſide; and further, they do Order that there be a further Proportion of Children, as hereafter ſpecified, ſent out of the Pariſhes here under mentioned, and do recommend the ſpeedy doing thereof, to the care of the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the Poor of the ſaid Pariſhes. And do further Order, That all other Church-Wardens ſend out of the Pariſhes within their Liberty, ſuch their Proportions as are enjoyned them by the ſaid Order, without delay.

The Pariſh of St. *Ann Weſtminſter*, Five. *Per Cur.*
The Pariſh of St. *James Weſtminſter*
more than on the other ſide, Three. Hardiſty.
St. *Margaret Weſtminſter*, more Three.
St. *Martins* in the *Fields*, more Three.
St. *Paul Covent-Garden*, Two.
St. *Clement Danes*, Two.
St. *Mary Savoy*, One.

And as many more as the Church-Wardens of the ſeveral Pariſhes within this Liberty ſhall think convenient to ſend.

Hardiſty.

Middl. ſſ. *Ad Generalem Seſſionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. pro Com.* Middl. *apud* Hicks-hall *in St.* John-ſtreet *in Com. præd' die Lunæ ſcil. Triceſimo die Auguſti Anno Regni Regis* Jacobi *Secundi nunc Angliæ*, &c. *ſecundo.*

UPon reading the Return made by the Juſtices of Peace of the *Tower Hamblets*, and upon their approving of the uſefulneſs of the General Nurſery at *Clerkenwell* in

in this County, and upon their desire that His Majesties Justices of the Peace here assembled, should nominate a Proportion to be sent out of the *Tower Hamblets*; and the said Justices of Peace here Assembled, having inspected the said House of Nursery; and being more and more satisfied, not only by their view, but by the general Approbation and Charracter of every Person that hath seen and tryed the same. It is thought fit, and ordered by this Court, That the Inhabitants of every Hamblet and Precinct in the said *Tower* Division, doth send five Children at the least, and as many more as the Justices of that Division shall appoint, and the Church-Wardens and Overseers of every respective Hamblet and Precinct in the said Division, are required to send the same accordingly.

Per Cur. Smith.

Middl. ff. *Ad Generalem Quarterialem Sessionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. pro Com.* Middl. *apud'* Hicks hall *in St.* John-street, *in Com. præd' die Lunæ, Quinto die Julii Anno Regni Regis* Jacobi *Secundi nunc Angliæ,* &c. *secundo.*

THis Court having considered of the Advantages to the publick, by a General Nursery, or Colledg for Infants, and therefore appropriated a great part of the County Workhouse at *Clerkenwell*; and did also for the putting the same in Practice, appoint several Children to be brought thereinto, out of the several Parishes within this County near adjoyning to the City of *London*; and it being found by experience a very useful and advantagious Design for the publick Good, and very well liked and appoved of by all Persons that have been to see the same: This Court doth

 therefore

therefore Recommend the ſame to His Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace, of the ſeveral Country Diviſions in this County, deſiring them to impart the Convenience thereof to the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the Poor of their ſeveral Diviſions, and that they do ſend two at the leaſt out of every Pariſh without the Weekly Bills of Mortality within this County, and ſuch further number of Children out of every Pariſh in their ſaid Diviſions, as to them the ſaid Juſtices ſhall be thought moſt meet and convenient.

Per Cur. Smith.

Divers of the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the Poor of the ſeveral Pariſhes, having according to the Orders ſent in their Children; have ſubſcribed this Addreſs to the Bench of Middleſex.

Midd. ff. WE the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the ſeveral Pariſhes (appointed by the Seſſions of Peace of this County to ſend ſome of our poor Pariſh Children to the Infantory or Colledg of Infants at *Clerkenwell*) do find it not only a great Convenience to our ſeveral Pariſhes, but a very great Advantage to the poor Children, they being provided for, and Educated much beyond the Imaginations of any Perſons that do not go to ſee them, and to the great Satisfaction of all that do; And we return our humble Thanks to the Seſſions for the Encouragement they have already given to this good Work. And as much as may become us, do humbly deſire the further Aſſiſtance of this Court, for the promoting and ſupporting thereof; And we likewiſe find that the Matron of the ſaid Houſe doth very diligently and carefully perform her Duty.

Middl. ff.

Middl. ſſ. *Ad Generalem Seſſionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. pro Com.* Middl. *apud* Hicks-hall *in St.* John-ſtreet, *in Com. præd' die Lunæ ſcil. Triceſimo die Auguſti Anno Regni Regis* Jacobi *Secundi nunc Angliæ*, &c. *ſecundo.*

WE the Grand Jury at *Hicks-hall*, Sworn this preſent Seſſions for the Body of the County of *Middleſex*, going to ſee this publick Houſe, or the General Nurſery, or Colledg of Infants, did examine and inſpect into the Methods and Rules thereof, and we find that all the Children there, are well Lodged, well Cloathed, kept Neat and Clean, taught to Read and Write, and well inſtructed in the Religion of the Church of *England*, as it's now Eſtabliſhed by Law. And we find that by ſuch Education, both the Bodies and Souls of many Infants will be preſerved, and many great Evils prevented, which daily happen in this County. And we find it a great Advantage and Convenience to the ſeveral Pariſhes, and that it is a very charitable and exceeding good Work. And we return our humble and hearty Thanks to the Juſtices of the Peace for this County, for the Encouragement they have already given it. And we humbly deſire the further Aſſiſtance of this Court for the ſupporting and promoting thereof.

William Holden, Foreman.
William Davis
William Sanders
William Munden
John Ilford
William Loughton
Charles Munden
John Thorley
Hugh Buxton
Henry Barret
Robert Drinkwater
Thomas Brumwick
Davenant Sherborne
Lawrence Wright
Thomas Rayner
Robert Munden.

Middl. ſſ.

Middl. ſſ. Ad General. Quarterialem Seſſionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. per adjornament. pro Com. *Midd.* apud *Hicks-hall* in St. *Johnſtreet*, in Com. præd' die Martis ſcil. tertio decimo die April. Anno Regni Regis *Jacobi* Secundi nunc Angliæ, &c. ſecundo; coram Roberto Clerk, Mil. Joh. Reresbey, Mil. & Bar. Jacobo Dewy, Willielmo Bridgman, Carolo Bonithon, Simone Parry, Thoma Hariot, Richardo Price, Carolo Hinton, Franciſco Knollys, Petro Lugg, Thoma Smith, Galfrido Nightingale, Armig. & al. ſociis ſuis Juſtic' dict' Dom' Regis ad Pacem. in Com. præd' conſervand' necnon ad diverſ. felon. tranſgreſſ. & al. Malefacta in eodem Com. perpetrat. audiend' & terminand' aſſign'.

HIS Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace abovementioned, having obſerved the looſe and idle way of breeding up of the Pariſh Children in this County, and that very few of them come to good, by reaſon that in their firſt beginning of Life, they ſuck in wicked and debauched Principles; for the Prevention whereof, and that for the future they who are bred up at the publick charge, may be inſtructed in true Religion and Virtue, they have at their General Quarter Seſſions appropriated a great part of their Corporation Work-houſe for their Reception, where there are Rules and Methods uſed for the better Breeding up of thoſe Children which are ſent thither. And the ſaid Juſtices having been to view the ſame this preſent Seſſions, do very well approve thereof, now the ſame is put into Practice. And whereas the ſaid Houſe hath been fitted up at the great Charge of ſome few Perſons to make trial for the receiving of ſuch as ſhall be ſent thither; but if the ſaid Houſe ſhall Increaſe,

Increaſe, as they the ſaid Juſtices have reaſon to believe it will, it may conduce much to the publick Good: For the better Encouragement thereof, it is commended by the ſaid Juſtices to all Perſons whatſoever in this County, to give their Aſſiſtance towards the carrying on of this good Work. And the ſaid Juſtices do deſire the Miniſters and Church-Wardens of the ſeveral Pariſhes, Hamblets and Precincts in this County, to commend the ſame in their reſpective Pariſhes, Hamblets and Precincts.

To the Miniſters and Church-Wardens of the reſpective Pariſhes, Precincts and Hamblets, in this County of *Middleſex*.

Per Cur. *Smith.*

FINIS.

June 30. *An.* 3. *Jacobi Regis.*

The Grand Jury having been to view the Colledg of Infants, made this Preſentment.

Midd.ſſ. WE the Grand Jury ſworn for the County of *Middleſex*, this preſent *Midſummer* Seſſions, do preſent, That the General Nurſery or Colledg of Infants, is one of the beſt and moſt charitable works that has for theſe many years been ſet on foot; and we find by what we now ſee, and by the Character which is every where given of it, That the Children are well educated in Religion and Virtue, and provided for with all things neceſſary; and we are convinced that this way of Education will prevent many great evils which are now daily practiced by breeding up of youths; and we are of opinion that the Church-Wardens and Overſeers cannot do a more Charitable deed with their publick money, than by ſending their Infants to that place; for incouragement whereof we humbly thank the Juſtices of Peace: And we deſire, That they will in their ſeveral Stations and Places order their Officers of their ſeveral Pariſhes to ſend their Infants to the ſaid Nurſery to be maintained at the publick Charge.

Richard Robins, Foreman.

Edward Hamſtead	*Thomas Baker*
Thomas Smith	*Thomas Harris*
Thomas Lord	*George Stead*
Thomas Long	*William Held*
John Coop	*John Farmer*
Robert Harridge	*Matthew Horton*
Richard Savidg	*William Clapſhaw*
John Dodd	*John Hartwell.*

The Juſtices of the Peace for the County of *Middleſex* upon many Complaints taking into their Conſideration the looſe and evil way of the breeding up of the poor Fatherleſs and Motherleſs Children committed to the publick Care, and that few or none came to good, did appropriate ſome part of their Corporation Work-houſe for their Reception, that an Experiment might be made of a more regular method and better way for the breeding up, and diſpoſing of theſe poor Infants:

And according as they found it good in Effect and Practice, either to diſſolve it, or carry on the ſame.

To that purpoſe by their Order at their General Quarter Seſſions they appointed a ſmall proportion out of every Pariſh to be ſent thither, that they might ſee whether the Propoſals when put into practice were in themſelves good and advantageous for the publick; and *Weſtminſter* Seſſions made the like Order upon propoſidg of it there.

Now all the Pariſhes did comply with the ſaid Order, and do very much approve the ſame, but St. *Clement Danes*, whoſe proportion being but 5 Children which charge would have amounted but to 2 *s* 6 *d. per* week more than now they pay, for that reaſon only did

did abſolutely refuſe to obey the Order of the Quarter Seſſions, and would ſend none thither, tho they at diſcretion gave away 2708 *l.* 16 *s.* 05 *d.* in the 7 years. Upon which this Order was made.

Middl. ſſ. *Ad Generalem Seſſionem Pacis Dom. Regis tent. pro Com.* Middl. *apud* Hicks-hall *in St.* John-ſtreet *in Com. præd' die Lunæ ſcil. Sexto die Decembris, Anno Regni Regis* Jacobi *Secundi nunc Angliæ*, &c. *ſecundo.*

WHereas the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the poor of the Pariſh of St. *Clement Danes*, in this County, have been ſummoned to attend his Court this preſent Seſſions to ſhew how many poor Children of the ſaid Pariſh they have put out to be Apprentices at the charge of the ſaid Pariſh for the ſpace of ſeven years laſt paſt, and their names, as alſo the names of the perſons to whom they put them Apprentices, and the places of their abode, and what money they gave with them, and what is now become of the ſaid Apprentices: And the ſaid Officers have attended this Court, but have not given any ſatisfactory Account to this Court, in the Premiſes, but deſired time; It is therefore thought fit and Ordered by this Court, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to Sir *Thomas Rowe*, Kt. *John Phelips*, Eſq; *Tho. Done*, Eſq; *Simon Parry*, Eſq; *Richard Price*, Eſq; and *Peter Lugg*, Eſq; his Majeſties Juſtices of Peace of this County, or to any two or three of them; to cauſe the ſaid Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the poor of the ſaid Pariſh, and ſuch other perſons as they

think convenient to come before them, and examine the ſaid Officers and Perſons concerning the diſpoſal of the ſaid Pariſh Children for Seven years laſt paſt, and what is now become of them. And the ſaid Juſtices are hereby further deſired to make a Report to this Court, in Writing under their hands, how they ſhall find the true ſtate of the Premiſes, and how they ſhall find the Muſter-Roll of the Pariſh Children in the ſaid Pariſh, at the General Seſſions of the Peace to be held for this County, next after *Hillary* Term now next enſuing.

The Report. Whereas by an Order made at laſt *Chriſtmas* Quarter Seſſions, it was deſired and referred to Sir *Thomas Rowe* Knight, *John Phelips* Eſq; and ſeveral other his Majeſties Juſtices for the ſaid County to Examine what Children the Pariſh of St. *Clements Danes* have had under their care for Seven years paſt, and how many of them have been put forth Apprentices; and what charge the Pariſh hath been at with the ſaid Children, and how many of them now are in being.

We the ſaid Juſtices do Report as followeth, That we inſpected the ſaid Books, and do find that in the year 1679. there were then at the charge of the Pariſh, 89 Children; of which 16 were Foundlings, all *Clements*: And we find there hath been added to the charge of the Pariſh 110 in the following Six years, in all 199. of which 51. are *Clements*, Children laid in the ſtreets.

We find that of theſe 55. hath been put forth to Apprentice, and that there are now in being 32 of the ſaid 55. only.

And we find that there now remains of Children at the charge of the Pariſh, 58. of which 13. are *Clements*.

And

And of the Apprentices living, 32, of which 3 are Clements. In all 90.

We find that the Officers have expended for Nurſing theſe Children, in the Seven years laſt paſt. } *l.* *s.* *d.* 1943.09.0.

l. *s.* *d.*
And for Binding forth the Apprentices--0109.08.0.
In all. 2052. 17. 0.

And we further find that they have given away on Extraordinary Charges at their pleaſure, ſome of which are for the Children. } *l.* *s.* *d.* 2708. 16. 05.

All which we ſubmit to this honourable Court.
Tho. Rowe. Jo. Phelips. Peter Lucy. Sim. Parry.

1. Note that Seven years ago, the Pariſh had 89. Children; and that 110. have been ſince added, in all 199. of theſe Apprentices accounted in, there is but 90. left. So that 109 are loſt and dead, in the ſaid Seven years, or never were,
Though payed for in their Books.

2. Note that of 55. bound out Apprentices in theſe Seven years laſt paſt, which coſt the Pariſh 109. *l.* 8. *s.* there is only left 32.
And how many of the 32. will ſtay to ſerve out their Time, is to be enquired further off.

3. Note that 51. of the 110. were Foundlings, all *Clements*, laid in the Pariſh, in Six years laſt; and ſo take the name of *Clement*, from the Pariſh, and 16. were then there, in all 79. the firſt year of the Inſpection, in all 97. now only 3. are bound out Apprencies, and 13.
are

are left, the first number 16. and 51. all *Clements* added, are all lost and dead; now the Parish-Books have been searched how many were Christned of these Foundlings, or *Clements*, or buried; and very few appear upon the Register: It is questionable if they ever were all there, though payed for.

It is much that 51 should die out of 67. in Seven year.

The particuler Money payed for Nursing of these Children, is 1943. *l.* 9. *s.* 0. *d.* in Seven year. Now judg if well disposed.

October the 15. Anno. 30. Jacobi Regis.

Midd ss WE the Grand Jury sworn for the Body of the County of *Middlesex*, this present *Michaelmas* Sessions, having been to view and inspect the College of Infants, set up by the Justices of the Peace for this County, do present, That it is a very advantageous and an exceeding Good work useful to the Publick, and a thing that will give much ease to the several Parishes of this County, if they send their Children thither, and prevent many evils which daily increase by the Ways and Methods as the Officers now use; and it will prevent many Cheats put upon the several Parishes by paying for Children which have been a long time dead, and for many which never were, and give a great satisfaction to all persons, in passing the Officers Accounts of the several Parishes; and it will be a great ease to the Officers, for there they may at any time see them together, which when placed at a distance, and in several places,

places, it will take much time and expence to perform; it will be a great eaſe in the Charge, for theſe Children placed in the General Nurſery, will be taken from the Pariſhes without charge, for their Education ſake; and the Pariſhes will ſave 3. 4. or 5 *l.* a piece, by giving Money to Bind them Apprentices, and providing Cloathes for them, and by giving an Addition of Money when any are ſick, all which is by this Proviſion ſaved to the ſeveral Pariſhes; and we do for our ſelves and the whole County whom we repreſent, give our humble thanks to the Juſtices of Peace of this County, for their ſetting a foot ſo good a work; And we give our hearty thanks to Sir *Thomas Rowe* for his great care in the prudent management thereof, and deſire that they will encourage the ſame by ſending thither ſo many of the Pariſh Children as the Houſe can receive, for we conceive the Officers of the ſeveral Pariſhes cannot better provide for their poor Infant Children, nor can the Publick Money raiſed for that purpoſe, be better imployed, than by paying for their Infant-Children in that place.

Francis

Francis Brown, Foreman

John Smith	*Thomas Knight*
Henry Anger	*Thomas Fryer*
John Sharp	*John Jordan*
William Watkins	*Chriſtopher Ingleton*
Thomas Merriot	*John Houſhaw*
Thomas Harding.	*Thomas White*
Amor Oxley	*John Bowden*
Thomas Woodward	*Richard Piggat.*

The advantages that all perſons will receive by this College of Infants.

1. By breeding the Pariſh Children in this way, they will be taken for Apprentices to very good Trades, or Servants for their Education ſake; and the Pariſhes ſave the Money they now give with them, and the Cloathes they provided.

2. There is no accidental Charge, can be charged upon them by the Officers of the Pariſhes either for Sickneſs, Cloathes, or any other accident, the 3. *s. per* Week, being the whole charge in the College, and thereby the accidental Book of the Pariſh will be much leſſened.

3. No Child can be payed for, that is not, nor any longer than they are alive; and the Officers of the Pariſhes will with much more eaſe and ſatiſaction adjuſt their Accounts when they produce an Acquittance from the Houſe for a Voucher.

There

4. There will not be ſo many Children expoſed to the Pariſh as now are, for it is believed that one half of the Children left to the Pariſh in the Streets, are more to ſave credit and trouble given by Pariſh Officers about ſecurity, than for want of 3 *s. per* Week to pay for them, had they a convẹniency as in the College.

Here the Widower may ſettle his Children, and go to the *Indies* for a Soldier, or any place where he pleaſeth.

The Widow may do the like.

The young man who by Folly is extravagant, may, having placed it here, be free from the opportunity of further Folly, by the Womans coming after him for Maintenance, which many times is the occaſion of getting more and greater evils.

The Tradeſman may leave off Houſe-keeping, having here provided for his Child, and may ſee it every Day without trouble or more charge.

The dying man may be ſure of a Proviſion for his Child, for leaving 50 *l.* to the Houſe, his Child is taken care of, put forth Apprentice, and ſhall have 10 *l.* out of the 50 *l.* to ſet up withal; what more he leaves, is to be accounted for every year to the Juſtices at every *Chriſtmas* Seſſions, if he by Will leaves no body elſe, and the Intereſt made Principal, and a good Fund in Land is now ſetled for the performance hereof, and at the houſe they may be ſatisfied therein; and a man may find many perſons who will ſee this done, to whoſe care if the Money and Child were left, the Money might be left and ſpent, and the child come to the Pariſh.

And for ſuch as are not willing to engage any perſon for Security, they may leave a caution of Money in the Houſe, and have the Fund ſetled for Security, the Surpluſage returned when they take away the child, the uſual Rate of the Houſe being firſt paid, and no Queſtions asked whoſe the child is, or whence it came.

FINIS.

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